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10-2010

## "STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST US!" -- Rape and Trafficking

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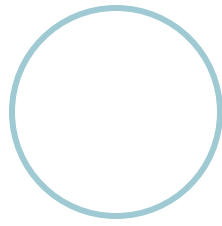
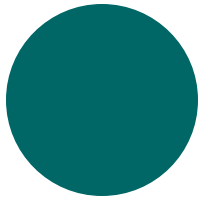
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**“STOP VIOLENCE  
AGAINST US!”**

Glenn Miles PhD,  
Love146

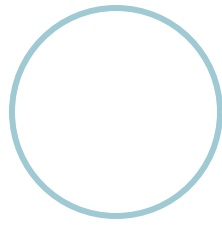
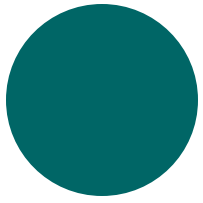




## Objectives

1. To provide information from children about violence against children to key decision makers in Government, International Organizations, and NGO's.
2. To find out children's perceptions and misconceptions so that appropriate education can be provided to children and youth.

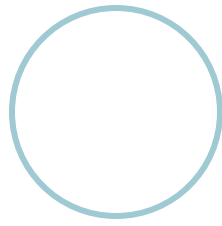
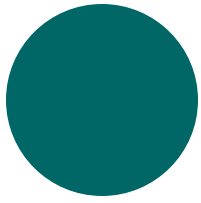




## Why listen to children?

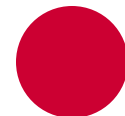
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child - Article 12 - Children have the right to be heard in things that affect them.
- They are the ones experiencing the violence so they are the ones who understand it.
- Children need to be seen as not just beneficiaries of adult led interventions but those who can shape their own future.
- If children feel heard their self esteem is raised and they can become participatory citizens.





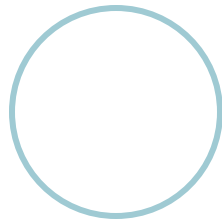
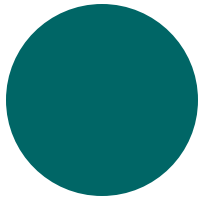
## Ethical considerations

- Children were informed the purpose of the exercise and given choices about being involved or not.
- Parents were not able to be informed before-hand due to logistics
- After the exercise children were given a contact point if they needed to talk to someone and reassured the information would be used.



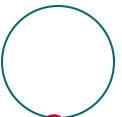
# Six Pictures





## Role Play Focus Group – Who?

- *5 Girls and 5 Boys aged 12-14 years were selected by local NGO's from 6 locations*
  - A rural area in Kampot (CADFP)
  - An urban area in Phnom Penh – Chak Angre Leu (Servants to Asia's Urban Poor/TASK)
  - A provincial town: Kampong Cham (Innerchange)
  - A border town: Pailin (CHO)
  - A tribal area: Rattanakiri





## Questionnaire Survey – Who?

- 10 Children, 5 Girls and 5 Boys aged 13-14 years were invited from 5 schools in each of the 24 Provinces
- Total of 1,314 children:
- 12 yrs 7.6%; 13 yrs 40.3%; 14 yrs 42.5% and 15 yrs 9.1%

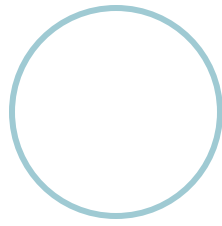
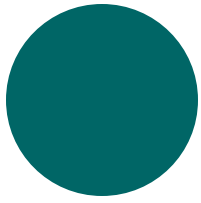




# Sexual Abuse/Rape of Children



**STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST US!**



## Have you witnessed the rape of another child by an adult?

23% boys

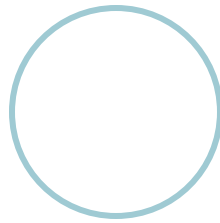
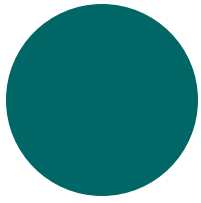


21% girls



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**STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST US!**



## Were you sexually touched on the genitals before 9 years?

16% boys

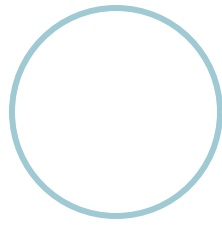
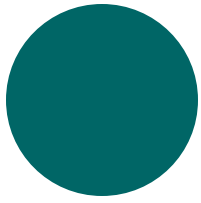


13% girls



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**STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST US!**



## Were you sexually touched on the genitals after 9 years old?

19% boys

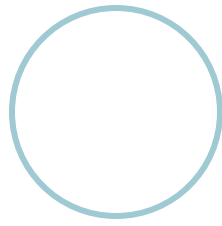
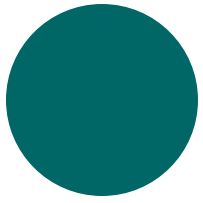


13% girls



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**STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST US!**

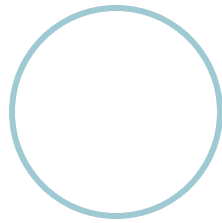
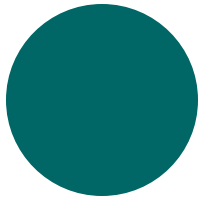


## **Sexual Abuse of Child – misconceptions**

### **Direct quotes from children**

- “After a girl is raped she will not find anyone to love her”.
- “Girls should avoid ‘bad people’ ”.





## What happens to children after they have been raped?

- **Weak/not healthy/thin** **42%**

“After being raped the children become weak, spiritless, quit school and are hated by their community”.

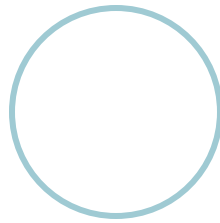
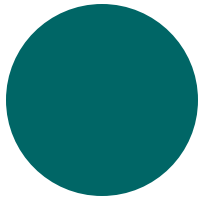
- **Ashamed/Shy/Regret/Weep/Hurt/Sad** **38%**

“After the children are raped they tend to cry harshly. They regret losing their virginity and feel ashamed to face anyone”

- **Afraid/Scared/crazy/mad/nervous** **36%**

“After being raped the children become frightened and sometimes they could be mad”.





## How can children be helped after they have been raped?

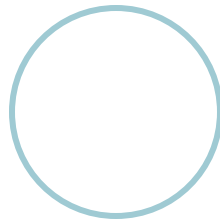
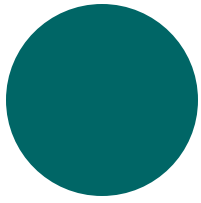
- **Dealing with the perpetrator/police/law/courts/prison**  
49%

“They can help resolve the problem by arresting the rapist for committing the crime and breaking the law”

- **Emotional support/encourage/support the child**  
28%

“By motivating the victim not to think they have no value in the community”





## How can child rape be prevented?

- **Legal measures**

**23%**

“They need to enforce the laws to make sure that justice is served and that corruption does not exist between the rapist and the law enforcement departments”.

- **Punishment to perpetrators**

**21%**

“They can prevent by reporting to the authority to arrest the perpetrator according to the law”

- **Using media/public awareness**

**16%**

“By educating people on video, radio, newspaper and magazine so that they all understand the negative effect of this behavior”.

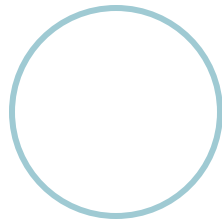
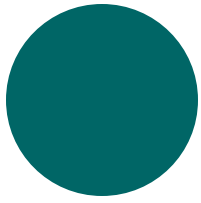


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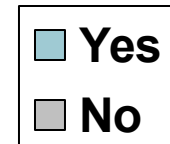
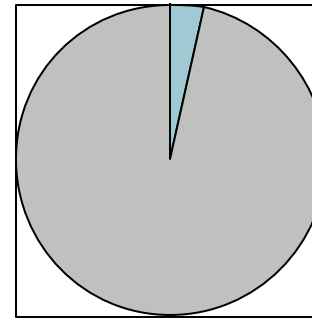
# Selling/Trafficking of Children



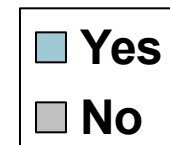
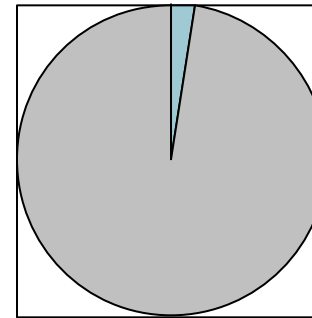


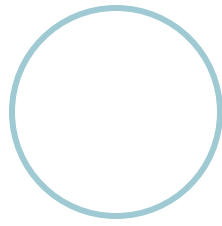
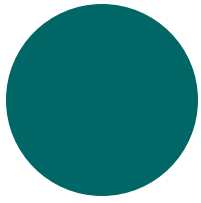
# Have you ever been sold by an adult?

3.7% boys said YES



2.4% girls said YES

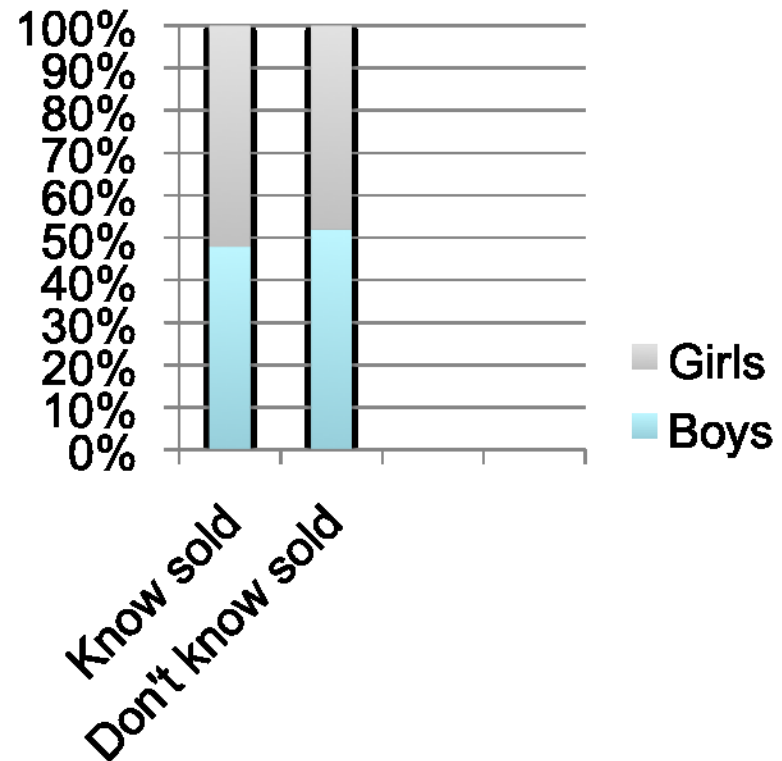


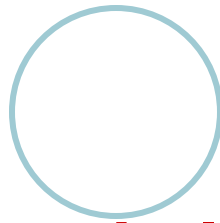
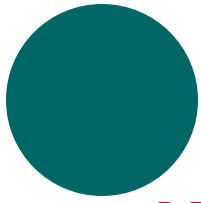


## Do you know a child who has been sold by an adult in your community?

45% boys said YES

49% girls said YES





## How can we help children who have been sold?

- **Public awareness raising** **34%**

“By involving the community leader and community to advise the parents not to sell their children and to understand the consequences to do so”.

- **Deal with trafficker** **32%**

“By apprehending the children traffickers and prosecuting them according to the laws.”.

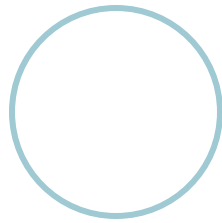
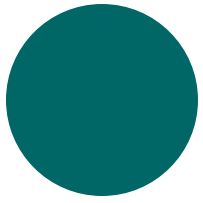
- **Rescue Trafficked child** **23%**

“By reporting to the authority to rescue the sold children.”

- Close brothels/end trafficking **14%**



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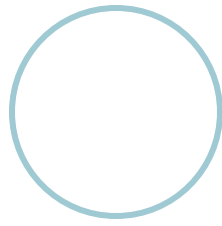
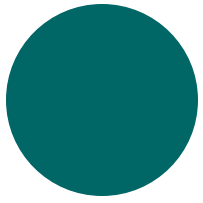


## Do you think being sold is...?

2.0% children said “Sometimes right. Sometimes wrong”.

95.1% children said “Always Wrong”





# Why are children sold?

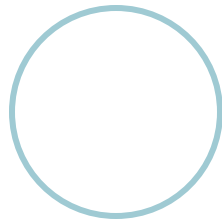
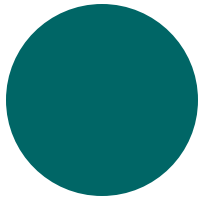
Children's responses varied.

- *Many understood poverty underlying cause and*
- *some say parents tricked*

But...

- *most children understood so are adults that gullable?*
- As one child said, "Even the wild cruel animal never eats its children"





## Why are children being sold?

- **Poverty**

**72%**

“Because they have no ability to support their children’s lives and manipulated into thinking their children will get a good job”.

- **Tricked by trafficker**

**21%**

“Because they were manipulated by the trafficker into thinking that they will have a good job but instead they were forced to work as a prostitute”.

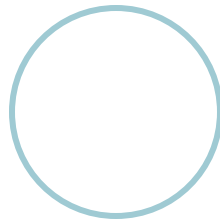
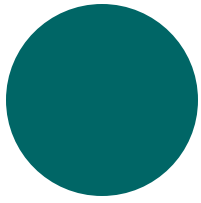
- **Demand from sex industry**

**23%**

“Because the trafficker wants to make money from selling the children”.



**24**

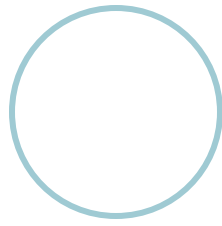
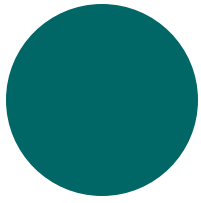


# What the the links between violence?

- Of children who said they had been sexually touched after 9 years
- 77% said that they had experienced other forms of violence
  - 32.9% one
  - 18.4% two
  - 27.0% thee or more
- Of children who said they had been bullied
- 26% said they had 'seen' a child rape (compared to 19.7% who had not been bullied)
- 19.2% experienced genital touching after 9 yrs (compared to 14.2% wwwho had not been bullied)
- See Qualitative Chart



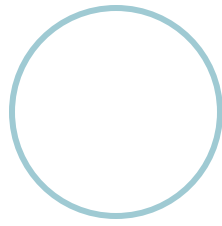
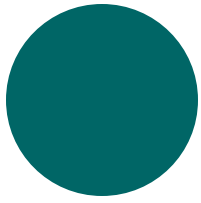




## Questions to ask ourselves

- How can we distribute our resources more fairly between addressing international issues (tourists/mafia) and 'domestic' issues (sexual abuse/exploitative child labor)?
- Where are the resources to help boys as well as girls who have been sexually abused and exploited?
- How can children be helped to find ways to challenge their elders if they are being abusive towards them or others?
- Is parents 'being tricked' into selling their children an urban myth?

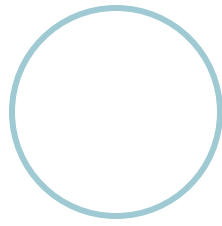
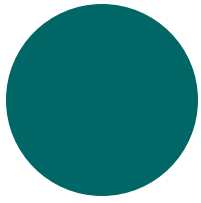




## Recommendations - Policy

- Not only revision but implementation of the law is vital – rapists and traffickers need to be prosecuted. Bribes are unacceptable.
- More preventative community based strategies and programmes are needed.
- Creative education for children in what is appropriate/inappropriate touch and finding a safe adult.
- Poverty reduction through income generating for youth and their parents
- Children remind adults that they need to take their responsibilities to protect them seriously.

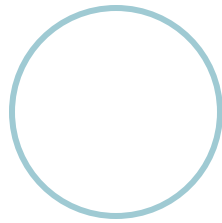
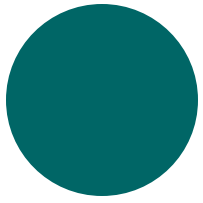




## Recommendations - Research

- If data is not available from UN agencies then NGOs may need to do it themselves.
- More research is needed on what makes some poor families more resilient and less likely to have children sold than others
- More research is needed on trafficking other than for sexual purposes
- Are there differences between provinces so some areas are more at risk? If so, how should we prioritize?
- How do children's views differ from adults?
- How can their views and contexts be better understood in developing policy/programs?





## Research summary access

- 'Stop Violence Against Us! Part 1  
(Sexual abuse, Domestic Violence and Corporal Punishment)  
'Stop Violence Against Us!' - Part 2  
(Trafficking, Bullying and Gang violence)
  - available from [glenn@love146.org](mailto:glenn@love146.org)
- This was also presented at the National and Regional level consultations of the UN Study on Violence

